Daily Report

Latin America

FBIS-LAT-87-218
Thursday
12 November 1987

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Cuba

'Mutual Confidence' With USSR Demonstrated

PA111544 Havana International Service in Spanish 0000 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Leonor Bravo commentary]

[Text] Those who thought there were differences between Cuba and the USSR resulting from the processes of social improvement both nations are undergoing received the harshest of denials during the 70th October Revolution anniversary celebrations. President Fidel Castro's active presence at the events and solemn ceremonies in Moscow, as well as his cordial meetings with Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, clearly established that through their own particular means Cuba and the USSR are working toward the same objective: socialism.

Upon returning to Havana, minutes after descending from the airplane that returned him to his fatherland, Fidel Castro said this had been his happiest trip to the cradle of the October Revolution. This conclusion is the result of Gorbachev's and Fidel's fruitful talks and the serious, mature evaluations of their nations' realities and international events in an atmosphere of mutual confidence.

Hopes of division were also dashed by statements made in Havana by Army General Raul Castro, second secretary of the PCC who in his speech on the 70th anniversary of the October Revolution stressed the indestructible strength of the ties between our country and the first workers' and peasants' state in history.

Fidel Castro and the Revolutionary Armed Forces minister clearly established that socialism is not a dogma and that the true value of today's revolutionaries, their enormous and responsible task, is to know how to unite the general principles of Marxism-Leninism with reality and with the specific conditions in each country to build a new society.

The Soviet Union and Cuba, to say it clearly, may display distinctive traits in the application of Marxism to their countries' realities, but the ideological, ethical, political, and moral principles are the same and are totally unalterable.

'Wide Angle' Program on Atomic Energy

FL061330 Havana Tele-Rebelde Network in Spanish 0230 GMT 3 Nov 87

[Interview with IAEA Director General Hans Blix; Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, executive secretary of the Cuban Atomic Energy Commission; and other guests by 'Wide Angle' program host Pedro Martinez Pirez—recorded]

[Excerpts] [Martinez] Nuclear energy and its many peaceful uses, especially the nuclear energy program underway in Cuba, will be discussed during today's "Wide Angle" program. As on other occasions, we have invited several specialists to join us on this program. One of our guests is IAEA Director General Hans Blix and Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart, Cuban nuclear physicist and executive secretary of the Cuban Atomic Energy Commission. [passage omitted]

My first question is addressed to you [Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart]. I would like you to explain the difference between renewable sources and nuclear energy. Some people feel that the Third World countries, countries that are behind in the use of nuclear energy, should use the renewable sources. What is your opinion?

[Castro Diaz-Balart] There is some controversy regarding this matter. Some people try to present renewable sources as the panacea that will resolve all the problems confronted by humankind. However, we must consider the fact that, according to studies done by researchers and discussed during international conferences, these renewable sources will not achieve their technological maturity until approximately the year 2050. By the year 2020, renewable sources will represent only 5 percent of the energy production on the planet. When I speak of the 5 percent, I am including all the energy-producing sources: biomass energy, geothermal energy, solar energy, tidal power, and wind power. However, when I spoke of the controversy regarding the use of energy and the renewable sources, I was speaking of the fact that currently the industrialized world is the one investigating and developing this type of source. We must now wait and see what the tests show and whether this technology can compete, in cost, with nuclear energy and other sources, and whether it will be accessible to the countries that need it the most.

I recall—no, I don't recall, I have read—that in the fifties, nuclear energy was seen as an alternative to hydroelectic power. It was said that it would have a negative influence on the environment, on the forests. But what has really happened? Nuclear energy is already producing 16 percent of the total energy. However, by the year 2000, or 2020, hydroelectric power will only be producing 5 percent of the total energy that the planet will use.

[Unidentified Narrator] [Picture of a nuclear power plant and illustration of a nuclear reactor appears on screen.] Economy is one of the main reason for Cuba's decision to study the possibilities of nuclear energy. Once the four reactors at the Juragua Nuclear Plant are operational, two of which are currently being built, our country will be saving 2.4 million tons of oil. At the 1985 price of oil, this represents a savings of $500 million. The cultural and scientific-technical development in the almost 29 years since the triumph of the revolution, has also created an infrastructure that allows Cuba to assimilate this technology, a technology that at international levels has been proven to be efficient and a technology that comes from a country with an active and strong collaboration Cuba.

The Cuban electronuclear development plan receives financial, material and human help from the USSR and other socialist nations. It also receives help from the IAEA. During the past few years, Cuba has also developed ties of cooperation with other Third World countries like India and Argentina.

[Martinez] Can you briefly describe the basic plan for nuclear energy development in Cuba?

[Castro Diaz-Balart] First, we must look for the basis of the plan with a clear and precise definition of the goals our country has in this field. It is a strategy that our country has drafted to achieve a sustained and harmonious development in this field. The human and political will of those who participate in this plan, and who wish to advance in this field, is also of great importance. [passage omitted] [Screen shows veterinary and medical equipment, a laboratory, and students studying in the USSR]

[Martinez] Daniel Codorniu Pujals is the director of the Center of Applied Science for Nuclear Energy Development.

[Codorniu] Scientific research in the field of nuclear science and technology is decisive for any country that undertakes a nuclear program such as ours. There are two main ways in which nuclear energy is approached in Cuba. In Cuba we apply nuclear techniques to our economy. For example, we use them in various areas of medicine, agriculture, the sugar industry, and the food industry. We also do research aimed at supporting the nuclear energy program. This is done primarily within the framework of the Nuclear Affairs Executive Secretariat, especially at the Center of Applied Science for Nuclear Energy Development.

This center is a scientific and technological unit, and its main task involves research, development, assimilation of technology, as well as scientific-technical services. All this is aimed at assimilating nuclear energy and applying the country's natural resources to nuclear energy.

The scientific research at the center is ruled by a 5-year scientific-technical activities plan that is approved by the Atomic Energy Scientific Council and by the Directorate of the Nuclear Affairs Executive Secretariat. The current 5-year plan includes research in the field of nuclear physics, the physics of the condensate mediums [fisica de los medios condensados], chemistry and radiochemistry, nuclear electronics, geology of materials of interest, and research involving the immobilization of low levels of radioactive waste.

Aside from the Center of Applied Science for Nuclear Energy Development, the Nuclear Affairs Executive Secretariat also has other groups involved in research. For example, at the Higher Institute of Science and Nuclear Technology they are doing research in the fields of nuclear physics, laser, reactor physics, and nuclear energy. At the Radiation Safety and Hygiene Center, there is a group of radiobiologists who are also doing research in this field. [passage omitted]

[Martinez] Professor Juan B. Kouri is the Cuban vice minister of Public Health.

[Kouri] The implementation of nuclear techniques in medicine in our country began in the fifties. However, it was not until 1960 that these techniques were developed to a great extent. The use of these techniques in medical diagnosis, treatment, and biomedical research, has resulted in its use by many institutions. This is how our clinical-surgical hospitals in Havana, certain research centers and research institutes, some specialized hospitals, the Santiago de Cuba and Camaguey Oncology Hospitals, and the Villa Clara, Holguin, Matanzas, and Pinar del Rio provincial hospitals came to use these techniques. We currently have approximately 21 nuclear facilities in the country; 10 of these facilities are located in the City of Havana, and the other 11 facilities are located throughout the country. Of these 21 facilities, 15 are currently being used, and 6 are being built. We think that these facilities will be operational in the next few years.

Throughout the years we have been training personnel in the techniques of applied nuclear medicine. There are approximately 51 full-time professionals in the field of nuclear medicine. Of the 51 professionals, there are 27 who are doctors specialized in the field. We also have 10 or 12 biochemists and approximately 10 people with a bachelor's degree in physics who are also working in this field. We also have 81 technicians working in the field of radio physics. However, I have not included the other professionals who, in one way or another, also use nuclear techniques in their research in the fields of medicine and biochemistry. [passage omitted]

[Martinez] Engineer Alejandro Bilbao Alfonso is the director of the Cuban Radiation Safety and Hygiene Center.

[Bilbao] The Juragua Electronuclear Plant is safe. From the moment the construction of the plant began—when it was planned, designed, and later built—specific measures, guidelines, and principles were followed to guarantee that once the plant is operational, it will be safe. These specific measures, guidelines, and principles were also followed to guarantee the safety of the personnel at the plant, [words indistinct], and the area surrounding the plant. We must also add that the technology used in the construction of this plant has been proven to be one of the best. The reactor that will be used at the Juragua plant is the kind most used throughout the world and its design and use has been tested at length.

One of the most important phases, prior to the construction of the plant, was the selection of its site. During that phase, much research was done. Geological, hydrological, seismological, and topographical studies of the area were done. Population and climate were also taken into consideration prior to the selection of the site. As a result of these tests, an antiseismic plan was drafted. Our plant is capable of resisting the strongest earthquake that could occur in the area. Safety measures were also included in the plan. We built an airtight building, and the reason for this is to protect the installation from [words indistinct] and the reactor from external factors caused by man or natural disasters like tidal waves or hurricanes.

At the Juragua Electronuclear Plant you can find the latest scientific and technological advances. For example, we could mention all the command and control systems used at the plant, and the improved system to protect the reactor. This type of reactor has been used for more than 20 years throughout the world, and we have learned from that experience. [passage omitted]

[Martinez] Much has been said about the importance of safety in this field. President Fidel Castro has spoken of this on several occasions; you [Fidel Castro Diaz-Balart] brought it up recently at the IAEA meeting in Vienna; and during this program we have heard the views from several specialists. However, I would like to hear what you have to say about safety.

[Castro Diaz-Balart] There are controversial views regarding the safety of a nuclear plant. The world has given much attention to this problem. As you know, because of its nature this type of installation demands strict safety measures and technical and quality control, in all its phases. This is essential from the moment the plans are drafted until the installation has been built and put into operation. I would also add that there is no other field that pays so much attention to safety and quality as the field of nuclear energy.

I also feel that safety is guaranteed in accord with the qualifications and levels achieved by the specialists and personnel who work at a plant. There is also another element involving quality and safety that is not always seen in the purely technical or technological side of the construction and operation of a plant but which is of great importance. This is seriousness, commitment, and determination, with which a country undertakes this type of development.

I can tell you, and our people know it, that our country has given the utmost attention to the field of nuclear energy. There is excellent collaboration, and very strong ties, among the various institutions directly involved in the construction of our first electronuclear plant; the government, party, and especially Comrade Fidel give priority to all issues involving nuclear energy. For this reason we feel we are assimilating and building our electronuclear plant with all the responsibility this technology demands.

[Martinez] I feel that the regrettable accident that occurred in Chernobyl has helped make the world even more aware of this issue. I would like to know your impressions regarding [word indistinct] after Chernobyl and how it has affected the nuclear option throughout the world.

[Castro Diaz-Balart] The regrettable accident that occurred in Chernobyl has not been the only accident. We also had the Three Mile Island accident and the 1957 Windscale accident in the UK. However, all these accidents put together, have not caused the number of deaths that other catastrophes have caused; other catastrophes caused by chemical accidents, accidents at refineries, and other types of accidents. The Chernobyl accident resulted in the deaths of 31 persons, whereas, the accident in Bhopal, India, resulted in the deaths of 4000 persons.

However, what I wish to stress is that if this technology is maintained and continues to develop it is because it was created, and improved, on a solid and trustworthy basis. Currently, [words indistinct] record of 1,200 reactor years of safety in over 30 years of operation.

But the problem of radiation, its harmful effects, has much to do with the way man learned of this type of radiation. Mankind was made aware of radiation following the genocidal action in Hiroshima and Nagasaki and the world has never totally recovered from this anonymous and invisible enemy that, as we all know, also has many virtues; it provides us with electricity and helps us improve man's health. [passage omitted]

Therefore, we feel that because of its degree of maturity, its technical feasibility, and economic competitiveness, nuclear energy is a reality and it is a source that cannot be overlooked. It is a source of energy that cannot be overlooked or disregarded in a world that craves energy and lacks natural resources, resources that dwindle as each day goes by.

Something that we could mention, and which is one of the results of the Chernobyl accident, is the degree of collaboration and the participation of the world community in the strengthening of the international nuclear safety system. Proof of this is the two conventions signed in Vienna last year; Cuba was one of the first countries to sign them. These concern the technical and scientific efforts being made to improve the automated direction system of the reactor and the advanced types of reactors being built, especially the water pressurized reactors like the one we have in Cuba. Eighty two percent of the reactors used around the world are water pressurized reactors. Thus, the Chernobyl accident taught us several lessons. It taught us to further strengthen the ties among nations, to make greater demands in the construction and operation of the plants, and to better train the specialists and reactor operators because it has already been proven that human error caused this accident, as well as other accidents. [passage omitted]

[Martinez] Dr Hans Blix, a Swedish citizen, since 1981 has been the director general of the IAEA. He has just ended a visit to Cuba. During his visit he was interviewed for this program by reporter Antonio Resillez.

[Blix, in English] The nuclear power reactors you are building in Juragua are of the type of water powered reactors. Several of them exist around the world. They are of a particular type that have been tested in different countries during years of operation. Moreover, they are the latest version of this type of reactor; therefore, I think that the construction is one in which there is much experience and there is no source of concern at all.

Now for [words indistinct] safe nuclear power, a type of reactor that is safe. But you also need safe operations. And that depends on the training of the personnel and their respect for the regulations and rules. Some people believe that these nuclear reactors are very simple and if you make the slightest mistake it will be dangerous. That is not so. These types of reactors are very tolerant; they also accept lots of human errors. And what will happen, in those cases were an error is committed—they will come to a stop. However, this is not very good for economic purposes. Therefore, both for economy and for safety purposes, the training of the operators and respect for the rules is very important.

[Resillez] What is your impression of Cuba's nuclear energy program?

[Blix, in English] I have the impression that it is a very ambitious broad program. First of all, I have the impression from the school system that a lot of emphasis is placed on science, natural sciences: physics, chemistry, biology, mathematics, and also training in computers. And then later, training either in Cuba or abroad in the use of the nuclear techniques.

The nuclear applications in Cuba are not only for nuclear reactors. You have a very broad program now. You combat cancer at the hospitals with radiation, you use it in diagnostic techniques, and you use nuclear energy for plant improvement, for sterilization of vaccines, for the possibility of radiation of food and other products, and, of course, the most spectacular economic importance is the enormous construction in Juragua.

So my impression is that it is an investment in the future of Cuba, and I think that the access to electricity is very important for your future. And the options of having electricity [words indistinct] through coal or nuclear energy. Coal, of course, has many negative sides and also requires huge quantities of coal, and its use in infrastructures and transportation is very heavy. I think that the conditions are created for the application of nuclear energy in Cuba.

[Resillez] Dr Blix, Cuba was recently elected as a member of the IAEA's Board of Governors.

[Blix, in English] Well, the Board of Governors is the most powerful organ of the organization. And that is where the budget is approved, programs are approved, and where many of the political matters are handled. Cuba will be one of the members of the Third World on the board of 35 members and, as such, it will have special influence during the next 2 years. I think that perhaps Cuba's election is an expression of appreciation for the ambitious nuclear program it has.

[Resillez] Thank you. Dr Blix, in conclusion I would like to go back to the topic of Juragua. You visited the station and you were given a detailed explanation of the construction and the current work. Do you think anyone should be concerned about safety in Juragua?

[Blix, in English] No. There are many nuclear power stations in the world. I would personally consider living near a nuclear power station rather than living near a coal power station. Naturally, no human activity is totally without some risk.

A plant that produces gas has some risks; hydropower dams have some risks. I would say that when you compare the different forms you can have electricity, generation by nuclear power reactors is one of the safest.

[Martinez] What do you think the future will be like for those countries that, in the 20th century, do not develop nuclear energy techniques?

[Castro Diaz-Balart] As we said earlier, the renewable sources—a technology that is also being developed in the industrialized countries—will not achieve maturity until the middle part of the next century. Fuel is being used up, and the only option, I repeat, the option at this moment is nuclear energy. It is going to be very difficult for a country currently experiencing economic, political, and technical problems, a country experiencing a recession or burdened by a foreign debt, to develop a technology such as thermonuclear energy. Unfortunately, many Third World countries fall into this category and, at this moment, it is very difficult for them to assimilate and develop this technology. In the next century this technology will no longer be described as advanced technology but as a conventional technology, and, as everyone knows, this technology uses one of the most abundant elements found in our atmosphere, hydrogen.

What I am trying to say is that what today would take a country 10 or 20 years to achieve in the future will be practically impossible because of the amount of money that has to be invested, knowledge of the technology, and the development of an infrastructure. That country will find itself deprived of the use of one of the most promising and necessary sources for humankind as nuclear energy.

[Martinez] Earlier in the program we mentioned that the first nuclear power plant in the world was built in 1954. A year before that, in Cuba, and under very difficult circumstances, a young revolutionary lawyer sowed the seed for what today is the nuclear development plan in our country.

Haiti

Disturbances Mar Voter Registration

Arson at Carrefour Office

FL102109 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Excerpt] The voter registration office in Carrefour Dufort [south of Port-au-Prince, between Leogane and Grand Goave] was the target of attempted criminal arson last night, according to another radio station. There were minor material damages, but the persons present were able to control the fire.

Also, the residence of Yves Volel, in the Delmas section of Port-au-Prince, received a burst of automatic fire last night. [passage omitted]

BED President Interview

FL102238 Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil in Creole 1200 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Excerpts] Sunday was, in principle, the last day of voter registration throughout Haiti. Yesterday, we interviewed Mr (Jean Robert Sabala), president of the Departmental Electoral Office [BED] for the Department of the West. [passage omitted]

[Begin recording] [(Sabala)] As you can see this morning, all those people in the yard are members of voter registration offices. This was the only way I could get the electoral registers back. I had to summon them all here this morning because; as the public knows, we have no means of transportation—no trucks, no jeeps, nothing in which to pick up the registers. And there are rural sections of Port-au-Prince that cannot even be reached by ordinary vehicle. Thus, the only way I could recover the electoral registers was to summon all the heads of the registration offices here, asking them to bring the registers. So if you are going to ask me for final figures now, I cannot give you any yet. You must give me a little time.

[Reporter] But can you give us an approximate figure of how many people registered to vote in the Department of the West?

[(Sabala)] I just told you! I am speaking for the Department of the West. I told you that these are the heads of the registration offices, of the Communal Electoral Offices [BEC] of Port-au-Prince—and this is only the BEC's for Port-au-Prince. When you realize that there are 300 registration offices for Port-au-Prince, and that each office is supposed to have five people in it, you can imagine the number of people who were supposed to be here this morning! Of course, we summoned only the BEC presidents and vice-presidents, but many of them came with members too. So you can imagine the number of people who came through here this morning.

[Reporter] That's 1,500 people.

[(Sabala)] And I'm only talking about Port-au-Prince. Tomorrow I will receive Carrefour and the day after tomorrow I will receive Delmas. I am counting on the members of the BEC's in the provinces to do the same thing I'm doing here. But as for a final figure, you can well understand that I certainly don't have one yet. If I can't even communicate with the BEC's, how can I give you a final figure now?

[Reporter] Well, certain media reports have said that, according to informed sources, approximately 2 million people have registered to vote. May we have your comments on this?

[(Sabala)] Gentlemen, I don't know where these people got their information. I truly don't know. I myself am seeing what is actually happening in my BED and I know that I myself cannot make an estimate at this time.

[Reporter] Well, I know that last week electoral registers were stolen from many offices. What (?are you going to do about this) situation.

[(Sabala)] Many, you say. I don't know why people exaggerate so! There were verified cases, true. But we informed the public as they occurred and were verified. Nothing was kept secret. I have made public every incident that occurred.

[Reporter] Many citizens are asking that registration be allowed to continue. How does the BED feel about this?

[(Sabala)] I don't know. This is an important and delicate question that you have asked me here, because the final decision is not up to me. [passage omitted]

[Reporter] As to the security the Army promised to provide, is it really being provided properly?

[(Sabala)] That is a very delicate problem that you have touched on there. As you can see, I have two guards here, given to me by Fort Dimanche. They are here permanently. I am taking care of them. As a candidate said to me, they are like chicks following the mother hen. They follow me like chicks.

[Reporter] When you say permanently, you mean 24 hours a day?

[(Sabala)] Yes, they are here 24 hours a day, doing their job normally. But, as you can imagine, two guards! There were more than 1,000 persons here this morning. So you can imagine how much two guards can do.

[Reporter] And what is being done at the other offices?

[(Sabala)] The other offices don't have any security. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Death of Armed Man

Port-au-Prince Radio Soleil in Creole 1930 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Our reporter Yves-Marie has details of a serious incident.

[Yves-Marie] We are at the BED for the Department of the West, located on Delmas 30, in the area behind Citibank, in the former [words indistinct]. There is the body of a young man covered with blood in the yard of the BED. [passage omitted] At his side is a 38-caliber revolver (?and) three bullets. There is a police squad here this time. [passage omitted]

[Announcer] The report was not very clear, so we will give you a resume of what we heard here.

At around midday today a young man entered the BED for the Department of the West, located on Delmas 30, on the same block as Citibank. He was carrying a weapon. They realized he had a weapon on him. When they ordered him to put up his hands, he apparently tried to pull out the gun, probably intending to use it. At that point, the police security people fatally shot him. Basically, that was the report, but Yves Marie will probably give us more details later.

Extension Possible

FL102124 Port-au-Prince Radio Metropole in French 1700 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] The cost of printing ballots for the 23 presidential candidates will be over $2 million, said Provisional Electoral Council [CEP] Treasurer Rev Alain Rocourt. Rocourt also said that there was a possibility that the voter registration period would be prolonged.

Senate Ratifies Control Over U.S. DEA Agents

PA120202 Mexico City EXCELSIOR in Spanish
4 Nov 87 pp 1, 30a

[Article by Jose Manuel Nava]

[Text] Washington D.C., 3 Nov—The Mexican Senate tomorrow will "probably" approve an amendment to the organic law of the General Attorney's Office that controls the activities of U.S. narcotics agents in Mexican territory and prevents their operations from turning into "pretexts to (encourage) foreign intervention, [no closing quotemarks as published] *Excelsior* was told today.

President de la Madrid's initiative has come as a culmination of more than 2 years of tension between Mexico and the United States on the drug traffic issue and as a result of the Mexican Government's view that the limits national sovereignty imposes on the activities of foreign agents have been overstepped, especially by U.S. narcotics agents.

Reliable sources have said the main objective of the initiative is to define clearly the operational limits of DEA agents in order to avoid misunderstandings and political pressure from "other countries," and to put in order the "broad activities of cooperation" that exist between Mexico and the United States in the struggle against drug trafficking.

Reliable sources have told *Excelsior* that Antonio Riva Palacio, leader of the Mexican Senate, has come to this city to prepare "the agenda of the forthcoming interparliamentary meeting" but also to ascertain the possible U.S. reaction to the expected approval of the Mexican executive's bill.

Riva Palacio will return to Mexico City tomorrow, following his talks in Washington with leaders of the U.S. Congress. His visit was described as "essentially, a courtesy visit" in the framework "of the continuous contact between the Mexican and U.S. Congresses to improve the communication" between the two parliaments.

However, other sources have said that the Mexican senator discussed with his U.S. colleagues the agenda of the forthcoming Mexican-U.S. interparliamentary meeting. These sources said that "this was the main objective of his trip." They noted that "he also spoke about the reform of the organic law of the Attorney General's Office."

President de la Madrid has sent to the Senate an initiative that has already gone through a first round and that will "probably" be approved tomorrow.

Well-informed people have said that the Senate's position on President de la Madrid's initiative is "highly favorable" and clearly supports the call for controlling the activities of agents of international organizations operating in Mexico, especially personnel from the DEA. The Senate, however, has not mentioned directly the United States or DEA.

Part of the document issued by the Mexican Senate and given to this correspondent by reliable sources says that the defense of the nation's sovereignty is "a permanent task of the government" and notes that this does not mean "an isolation from the international community."

The document states that it is necessary that Mexico maintain close ties of cooperation with other countries, but in a way that these ties are in line with "our principles of independence and underlining political sovereignty. It is suitable to state this in a law on cooperation in the field of justice."

The Mexican Senate's document states the need for specifically amending the law on international cooperation in the "drug" field in such a way that it can prevent "evaluations and measures aimed at subduing our capability to autonomously make political decisions and at granting authority in Mexico to foreign people or entities."

According to the sources that provided this information with the condition that their identity not be revealed, the document states that it is necessary to establish appropriate legal grounds for the activities of foreign agents in order to avoid leaving room for threats of "penalties" by other "countries."

The document states: "International cooperation is a joint operation that has a common goal, and we cannot permit for any reason to see it turned into a pretext for a foreign intervention or for subordination to unilateral opinions or judgment."

The president's initiative calls for reforming Article 9 of the Organic Law of the Attorney General's Office so the Mexican antinarcotics program is subordinated to unilateral interpretations from other countries, the sources said. [sentence as published]. [An article appearing in Mexico City's *EL Nacional* in Spanish on 5 November, page 6 reports that the Mexican Senate "unanimously approved the law during the regular congressional session yesterday."]

Legislators Affirm Position

FL121323 Mexico City NOTIMEX in Spanish
0512 GMT 12 Nov 87

[Text] Caracas, 11 Nov (NOTIMEX)—Mexico today affirmed in Caracas its right to separate international cooperation from interventionist intentions under the pretext of solving the drug trafficking problem.

Mexican legislators Manuel Ramos Gurrion and Rafael Cervantes Acuna responded indirectly during a news conference to Sheldon Vance from the United States. Vance had proposed multinational actions that would tacitly include intervention in area countries' domestic legislation and policies.

Ramos Gurrion and Cervantes Acuna are participating in the Hemispheric Interparliamentary Conference on Drug Abuse and Illegal Trafficking. They stressed that the Mexican Government's attitude toward the problem of production, trafficking, and consumption of narcotics is not one of control but of total elimination. They also stressed Mexico's sovereignty in carrying out a frontal fight to remove this disease from its territory and from other countries while, at the same time, seeking international solidarity in accordance with each nation's policies.

They said that the more powerful countries should not place conditions on assistance but instead should act in solidarity with all governments to end this scourge that threatens the security of the states themselves.

It is not known who is more to blame, the Mexican legislators said, the one who produces the drugs or the one who consumes them. They demanded that the United States reach a definite solution to the problem of drug use before the U.S. authorities question the actions of Latin American governments which are attempting to eliminate the production of narcotics.

The Mexican delegates stressed the international nature of drug trafficking, as well as the need to energetically and constantly combat this crime and the problems it creates. They invited the delegates attending the conference to reflect on the factors that are the root of the problem.

It is not necessary or prudent to continue acting on the symptoms without giving attention to the causes. If this action continues with only a partial view of the problem, there will be more frustrations than satisfactions, they said.

Candidate Salinas Addresses PRI Convention
PA101244 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1640 GMT 8 Nov 87

[Statements by PRI presidential candidate Carlos Salinas de Gortari at the seventh ordinary PRI Convention in Mexico City on 8 November—recorded]

[Excerpts] Peasants, laborers, popular groups, delegates, fellow party members: As the PRI's presidential candidate, I make a commitment at this solemn ceremony to fulfill with conviction and to passionately defend the principles and postulates of the Mexican revolution. I assume the responsibility of listening to and collecting throughout the political campaign that is initiated today the problems, demands, and the hopes of Mexico's majority. I will do this to establish new goals and to point out the best paths. I assume the responsibility of guiding our party to an electoral victory. I will do this in a democratic election. I greet you all, comrades, as the forces that bring cohesion to our party and that promote the nation's development. I acknowledge you as the bases of the party of which I have been a member all my life, to which I profess loyalty, and from which I expect to receive political inspiration and moral strength. Thanks to you, the party has been able to bring together social representation, ideological clarity, and constructive capacity. With you, the party has nourished itself from the country's very vitality, and because of this it has been able to adapt to changes, overcome stumbling blocks, incorporate new ideas, adopt new methods, and always be flexible without disrupting the essential line of the Mexican revolution. [passage omitted]

I acknowledge that President [De la Madrid] is the leader who has democratically made it possible to implement the structural changes that Mexico needs, who has renewed the legal framework and the political institutions, who has opened new paths for participation, and has known how to give the Mexican people renewed confidence in themselves and in their future. Because of this I will initiate a new campaign for the Mexican revolution upon different and more solid bases. I will open the doors to the Mexicans' will and intelligence. I will use the strength of hope to advance with a firm step toward the modernization our times demand. I will struggle in this political campaign to make Mexico win.

Comrades, I have heard in the intense dialogue that characterized the pre-campaign proselytizing period, constant and persistent demands from my fellow countrymen. The Mexicans of today want personal security, economic stability, and opportunities to improve. They want to participate more and for their participation to really make a difference, to live in community, respect traditions, and receive dignified treatment. In the words of the simple people, these demands are aimed at maintaining our independence, defending our liberties, promoting democracy, and achieving justice.

As a nation we face four large challenges that emerge and are nourished by contact and interaction between our hopes and our reality. One of these is the challenge of sovereignty. How can Mexico, in a tense and increasing interdependent international situation, defend its principles and participate more advantageously in the great process of world transformation? Another challenge is the democratic challenge. How can we perfect our institutions to broaden the clarity and the credibility of the electoral processes, and also raise the quality of the country's political organizations? The third challenge is the social challenge. How can we respond to the urgent need to eradicate poverty, attend to the increasing demand for basic services, make progress in equal opportunity, and assimilate new manifestations of culture on a daily basis? The final challenge is the economic challenge. How can we simultaneously overcome inflation,

quicken recovery, and deepen the strategy of structural change? I am convinced the country's modernization is necessary to confront the current challenge. We must do this deliberately—in response to external forces—or we will fall behind in the great worldwide change, endangering our viability. We will not be able to face our economic, social and political challenges internally, however, if we do not actively promote Mexico's changes and transformation.

Recently, there was a false concept of international modernization. According to this concept, modernization was a process applicable only to the underdeveloped countries, whereby they would try to reach the levels of the more advanced world. It was simply a mechanical repetition of the path followed by the more developed nations in their industrialization, urbanization, and even in their forms of social and political organization. Implicit in this theory was an alleged universality of objectives, rules, procedures; and after all is said and done, a contempt for national identity, and an obvious desire to dominate.

However, in recent decades the definition of the word modernization has undergone a transformation. At present, the same so-called advanced countries embark on the road to attain changes without recourse to previous reference or models. Blind trust in progress has diminished and supposedly universal dogmas have disappeared. As seldom before, the world at present is anticipating the future. The rupture with rigid ideological plans, the complexity of the social fabric, the excessively cumbersome government bureaucracy, the technological and economic imperative of interdependency between nations, the new forms in which hegemony is, at times, exercised, presently oblige almost all the big countries to embark on a profound political and economic modernization program to prepare themselves for the great and uncertain challenges of the 21st century. [passage omitted]

Through a revolutionary feat, our Armed Forces have always maintained their modernization in accordance with the development of the country. Our modern policies encompass our long historic heritage. Our strength as a nation lies in our strength as a society. We will deepen the liberal profile of Mexican democracy and society to validate popular sovereignty. In this way, we will make the nation more internally united and externally strong. We will defend and promote our foreign policy, which has brought us so much prestige: the right to self- determination, nonintervention, the peaceful solution of controversies, the banning of threats or use of force in international relations, legalize equality, international cooperation in development, and we will struggle for international peace and security. We will progress within democracy. We will remain tolerant, but we will firmly apply those precepts that protect individual and social rights.

We propose to strengthen the trust of the people in elections, where their votes will count, where results will truly reflect their will. We propose to sharpen the separation of powers, recognizing the fundamental importance of a mature presidency as a factor of equilibrium and one that firmly leads the country. We also accept a legislative body with increased functions and one that has been strengthened by the parties acting within it. We also pay due respect to the revamped judicial power. We have to modernize the federal arrangement and the present decentralization process to bring decision-making closer to those who bear the brunt of those decisions and so people will truly influence the decisions. We must promote structural changes in federalism in its relations with the states so that citizens believe these new relations and decentralization of power can take place without falling into the risk of creating new republics that duplicate efforts and exhaust our national drive. In economics, modern policies postulate realism with a social sense. We Mexicans have learned a lot from our history: the inefficiencies brought about in the productive system by excessive protectionism, the attempts to progress without having firm bases through indiscriminate state intervention, the pressures and inequalities that financial disorder can generate, the cost to the country of an excessive vulnerability to external factors. Party comrades, we have learned that in the end populism harms the interest of the majorities and constitutes the worst enemy of our aspirations for popular welfare.

The new political culture calls for a clear relationship between society and the state. That relationship should be based upon Mexico's two great political traditions: republican values in the exercise of authority, and society's participation in the transformation process. We have had the historical fortune of having a president of revolutionary lineage. He has rescued moral authority and citizens' respect for the presidency. He has given us an example of how a mandate must be executed in Mexico. He has done this with patriotism, strict adherence to the law, authority, serenity, temperance, firmness without harshness, and with absolute and total personal honesty. [applause]

Guided by his example, I see public office as the conciliation of legitimate interests for the benefit of all. This conciliation is above pressure groups, fully respects representative groups, and rejects despotism and [word indistinct] of power.

Society is demanding greater participation in the process of transforming Mexico; when this transformation is achieved society will have greater responsibility. I am going to respect and encourage society's participation, guide its aspirations, promote agreement, and make changes. Government and social groups can make specific commitments and far reaching agreements to face private difficulties or general problems. To achieve this we must strengthen the culture of tolerance and agreement. It is possible to process different and even opposing ideas, but the formula for the country's peaceful and

harmonious transformation involves mutual respect, the opening of spaces for expression and even of dissatisfaction, and the widening of channels of participation for social groups. Through this organization and maturity I will recognize these social groups' political representation.

I prefer a modernization of the language, the recovery of its directness, clarity, and precision; it should really confer the intended ideas. Modern politics claims its words because it believes in what it states. Let us return to the simple language that inspires confidence because it can be understood. [applause].

During the upcoming presidential campaign we will maintain unrestricted freedom of expression with the communications media. It is possible to imagine a different type of relationship among politicians, intellectuals, scientists, and artists; a relationship that will in itself be an expression of modernism, that will imply mutual comprehension and common efforts on the path toward Mexico's modernization; a relationship of respect for criticism and support for creativity, research, journalism and government institutions. It is possible to imagine a new relationship between politics and culture from which our new political culture will arise. Comrade Mexicans, we will conduct a modern campaign. The modernization—which is felt in the heart of the party—is not designed to destroy the treasured work of the political genius which has propelled the country through more than half a century of advancement and a peaceful transmission of power. The modernization is designed to revitalize the PRI, and to let it continue to enjoy the confidence of the majority of voters. [passage omitted]

Once more, the majority of Mexicans will vote for the PRI with conviction and hope because we will show them that ours is the viable, legitimate and nationalist option to confront the Mexican challenges. We do not aspire to be the only party. Mexico's plurality would reject this. We will, however, seek to defend our majority both legally and passionately. Democracy allows for this. [applause] In the next electoral campaign, the sole judge of our actions will be the Mexican people. I will carry the flag of the great historical party of the Mexican Revolution with honor. [passage omitted]

Amendments on Foreign Policy Proposed

PA091642 Mexico City XEW Television Network in Spanish 1300 GMT 7 Nov 87

[Text] The principles guiding our country's foreign policy will be given constitutional force. This is stated in the presidential bill amending Article 89 of the Constitution, which was sent to the Senate.

Foreign Secretary Bernardo Sepulveda outlined the principles of our foreign policy that will be included in the Constitution. The main principles are nonintervention, people's right to self-determination, and peaceful solutions to differences. Other principles to be incorporated into the Constitution will include the nonuse of force, international cooperation for development, and the struggle for world peace and security.

Foreign Secretary Sepulveda said these principles govern the Mexican Government's actions abroad and are considered part of the Mexican people's political heritage. He said the presidential bill ratifies our country's international diplomacy.

El Salvador

Military Orders Operation in Chalatenango

PA101735 San Salvador Domestic Service in Spanish 1621 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Communique issued on 10 November in San Salvador; read by General Adolfo O. Blandon, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces]

[Text] We have called you to report to you and the Salvadoran people the following communique:

A terrorist concentration has been located in (Cerro Iramon), San Antonio de La Cruz jurisdiction, Chalatenango Department, near the 5 November and Cerron Grande hydroelectric facilities. This concentration threatens the security of the aforementioned installations.

In view of these events, the Armed Forces Joint Chiefs of Staff, after engaging in the appropriate consultations, have ordered a military operation in the area specified to protect the national territory.

San Salvador, 10 November 1987

Blandon Comments

PA102203 San Salvador Radio Cadena YSU in Spanish 1800 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Interview with General Adolfo Onecifero Blandon, chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff of the Armed Forces, with unidentified reporters on 10 November; no place given—recorded]

[Text] [Reporter] Are the Salvadoran Armed Forces committed to continuing the unilateral cease fire?

[Blandon] [Words indistinct] sacrifices. The sacrifices we are making are evident. [Words indistinct] we are going to do it. When something is done to achieve peace in the country, this calls for various efforts.

[Reporter] Gen Blandon, you said the Army will conduct an offensive operation but that it comes as a reaction because you believe the guerrillas are conducting an offensive operation.

[Blandon] We do think they have taken positions at the center of two places that are highly strategic for the country. They could attack the Cerron Grande and 5 November Dams. I have not said they are conducting an offensive operation. There is a guerrilla concentration but we do not yet know their plans.

[Reporter] Gen Blandon, regarding the amnesty law that was enacted, the Esquipulas II agreement said the guerrillas had to release the people that they were holding. Do you know if they are releasing the mayors, for example?

[Blandon] I have no information on the matter.

[Reporter] Can you tell us how many people are (?involved)? Will this involve hundreds or thousands of soldiers? Is this is a big-scale or a medium-scale operation? We simply need a frame of reference.

[Blandon] This is a small-scale operation.

[Reporter] Is it an offensive operation?

[Blandon] (?yyes).

[Question indistinct]

[Blandon] From a tactical viewpoint, that is impossible. To defend a strategic objective, sometimes we have to [words indistinct] and the procedure followed alone is enough. In view of the circumstances and the intelligence report on the number of people who are in [name indistinct], there is the danger that they may conduct, say, an indirect attack. I am referring to an attack with mortars. Considering their location, they could very well attack either dam.

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] El Paraiso?

[Blandon] Exactly.

[Reporter] When did you learn about the guerrilla concentration near the [words indistinct]?

[Blandon] Excuse me?

[Reporter] When did you learn about that guerrilla concentration?

[Blandon] Today, at 0630.

[Reporter] Gen Blandon, the guerrillas [words indistinct] attack left 50 percent of the country without electricity last week. [Words indistinct] in several years. Why did they conduct this sort of attack? [passage indistinct]

[Blandon] I think this action runs counter to what the government is doing. The government is striving to achieve peace and restore calm to the people, but the guerrillas are depriving the people of the most basic and useful services. Indeed, [words indistinct] damage by destroying pylons and [words indistinct].

[Reporter] [Words indistinct] "Concord" operation precisely to prevent [words indistinct] in the country. [passage indistinct]

[Blandon] That is right. That is [words indistinct].

FMLN Responds

PA111634 (Clandestine) Radio Venceremos in Spanish to El Salvador 0000 GMT 11 Nov 87

["Official position" of the FMLN General Command in response to statements by General Onecifero Blandon, Salvadoran Armed Forces chief of staff—date not given]

[Text] 1. Onecifero Blandon's statements regarding the presence of FMLN forces at Cerro Eramon, in the Arcatao and San Antonio de la Cruz area, Chalatenango, has a sole objective: to politically justify the military measures to reinforce the operation that Military Detachment 1 is executing in Arcatao and its vicinity as part of the Concord plan.

2. For the past 48 hours a battalion [words indistinct] of Military Detachment 1, which has been executing an operation in Arcatao, is demanding that the High Command provide aid and artillery support so they can continue holding their positions. This shows the low morale among the puppet Army's officers and troops. This is the real reason Onecifero Blandon is now trying to justify air support to forces involved in operations since 1 November 1987.

3. Onecifero Blandon's statements show that he and the High Command fail to realize what is going on in our country, because the FMLN units that Blandon today said are concentrated on Cerro Eramon have maintained control over that strategic position for the past 8 years.

4. Blandon and the High Command are deceiving no one; everyone knows the cease-fire decreed by Duarte is nothing more than a clumsy maneuver. Contrary to its call for a cease-fire, the High Command has actually been intensifying military operations. We are not at all worried about this measure, because as we stated on our 5 November communique in the wake of High Command military operations, we have already issued combat orders to our units. We reaffirm this combat order is still in force in the country's 14 departments.

5. Finally, the FMLN reaffirms that in view of the decision of the Yankees, the High Command, and Duarte to use the cease-fire as a smokescreen while they intensify military operations in the countryside and murders and repression against the workers in the cities, our political-military struggle to topple the Duarte puppet regime will continue to advance on a strong footing.

[Signed] FMLN General Command

Honduras

Azcona Says Peace Process 'Too Slow'

PA111445 Tegucigalpa Cadena Audio Video in Spanish 1230 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] Honduran President Jose Simeon Azcona Hoyo has described the progress of compliance with the peace agreements he signed with his regional colleagues in Guatemala in August as too slow.

To Azcona, Nicaragua continues to be the biggest obstacle for the so-called Arias plan. He criticized the Sandinists' unwillingness to provide a broad and general amnesty. The Honduran president spoke with David Romero Elder:

[Begin Azcona recording] No. On the contrary, Honduras is fully complying with the peace plan, as we have explained to the public. We want the peace process to progress. Because we are so involved in or committed to making progress, the Costa Rican vice president will arrive today and the Guatemalan president will arrive on Tursday. We are going to stay in close contact with all the Central American presidents to truly make this process effective so it will not remain a peace of paper signed by five Central American presidents. [end recording]

Azcona said he supports the Reagan administration's efforts to talk with the Sandinists:

[Begin recording] [Azcona] Perhaps President Reagan wants to talk with the Sandinists within a multilateral framework. It seems to me anything leading to peace in Central America must be accepted with a positive attitude.

[Romero] [Words indistinct] Sandinist government to try to talk with the Nicaraguan contras?

[Azcona] It seems good to me, but apparently they are not always serious about it. President Ortega said he wants to talk with Reagan but through Obando y Bravo as the intermediary. These are very serious things. The rest of us have said that it is all right to go through intermediaries if they do not want to hold direct talks, but they always come up with something else. The truth is that when the Sandinist government signed the Guatemala agreement it made serious commitments, and once a promise is made it must be kept.

[Romero] It has been said the U.S. Congress is linking aid to Honduras to compliance with the peace agreement.

[Azcona] That is not true. Who said that?

[Romero] News reports say that.

[Azcona] The reports are completely wrong. U.S. aid to Honduras is (?increasing) as part of a program. In fact, certain concessions are being made because tariffs have not been discussed in Congress, and on Thursday they will disburse some aid from the economic stabilization fund. Therefore, what was said about that matter is not true. President Reagan submitted an aid request for Honduras to Congress. It is a large amount of aid, and bear in mind the United States is cutting the foreign aid budget right now. [end recording]

The president feels the peace agreement is progressing, but too slowly:

[Begin Azcona recording] It is progressing very slowly. We have been saying for more than 1 month the problem is that interest is only focused on a cease-fire in Nicaragua. We said, however—and we maintain this—that the most difficult points for Nicaragua to comply with are the amnesty and the suspension of the state of emergency. The biggest problem is with the amnesty, however. Apparently it affects their policy. They committed themselves, and now they must release political prisoners. [end recording]

Nicaragua

Nunez on 10 Nov Session of National Dialogue

PA102135 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1852 GMT 10 Nov 87

[News conference by Commander of the Revolution Carlos Nunez, president of the National Assembly, with unidentified reporters at Orange Room of the Augusto Silva Convention Center in Managua—live]

[Text] [Nunez] [Words indistinct] delegates of the parties or political groups that were recently formed, although some of them, such as Dr Miriam Arguello Morales, Dr Julio Ruiz Quezada, Dr Guillermo Telva Arguello, and Dr Julio Ramon Garcia Vilchez, did not sign it.

In the morning session we made the best posssible effort to put an end to the deadlock in the national dialogue. As you know, we have spent practically three sessions in a rediscussion of new modifications in the regulations. After a discussion that lasted all morning as representative of the president of the Republic in the national dialogue and as the moderator I announced that the topic had been discussed long enough. I therefore closed the debate and proceeded to make the following proposals. We understand that because there were no objections, they were approved in order to end the deadlock in the national dialogue. I proposed two alternatives: One would be for the parties to indefinitely withdraw to discuss among themselves whether or not they could agree on the regulations' contents. This could result in an indefinite or definitive suspension of the national dialogue or a presentation of all proposals for changes at the negotiating table; another result could be that a technical commission would be appointed to subsequently propose modifications to the regulation which, after being discussed and approved by the plenum, could be incorporated into the regulation.

If the latter is approved, then we could meet at 1445 today to begin discussion of the agenda or the contents of the agenda using the regulation approved by the eight political parties on 28 October as a guide. This, in sum, is the result of the morning session, which, by the way, was very tiresome. We hope that this afternoon we will not find any intransigent positions on the part of the political parties and groups participating in the national dialogue.

At approximately 1415 there will be a meeting with all the organizations represented in the national dialogue to begin discussing the agenda, using the rules approved by the eight parties as a guide, with the possibility of later introducing new modifications.

[Reporter] Commander, political parties here have been saying that since the Miriam Arguello and Mario Rappaccioli faction arrived the dialogue has bogged down. In addition, during the last few hours a new group has formed that threatens to split the Erick Ramirez Social Christian Party [PSC] into four parts. What influence does this have on the national dialogue?

[Nunez] The only influence it could have on the national dialogue would be that it changed the status of the delegates. As you know, the main PSC delegate is Agustin Jarquin, and his deputy is Ciriberto Sarria. That is the only influence it could have. Regarding the internal crisis, I would not want to give an opinion because from what I have heard and seen in the media, the FSLN is now blamed for problems that are their own. From this moment we categorically reject any such accusation. The other question, please?

[Reporter] It concerns the point that ever since Mrs Arguello and Mario Rappaccioli's faction arrived here, the dialogue has bogged down as the rules had already been approved. It seems to me that there has been too much flexibility on your part as dialogue president.

[Nunez] In politics, each one plays a role in order to be able to respond to a given responsibility. This is a position I have maintained to the parties, because if I see that I must have patience and maintain an attitude of balance and moderation to avoid a break in the national dialogue, then that is what I have to do. I do not agree that ever since the arrival of Miriam Arguello and Mario Rappaccioli's faction the dialogue has bogged down. I would say that since the political parties joined the dialogue following President Ortega's reconsideration on the composition of the national dialogue a confrontation has taken place because these political parties said that the rules should be changed and that they were unwilling to accept the decisions of eight parties because they also carried their weight and political force in the country. What we are now seeing is a confrontation between the political and ideological positions of the political parties and groups that belong to the Coordinating Board and the eight other political parties.

[Question indistinct] [8-second break in reception]

[Nunez] This reminds me of a watchword that Somoza frequently used during his time of terror. About 4 years ago I was responsible for public relations and the media and I organized several of the FSLN events or revolutionary anniversaries. The only interpretation that I could give this type of watchword is that our country's right wing is waiting for some force—be it backed by the U.S. Administration or the U.S. Administration itself—

to be a determining factor for the overthrow of the Sandinist government. If we comply with the Esquipulas agreement, we leave. [sentence as heard] I would make a direct [words indistinct] that this would not affect in any way the U.S. Administration, and it would have no other alternative than intervention. If we do not comply, we leave. This would mean that the U.S. Administration will bring its group of mercenaries and would try to increase its attacks on Nicaragua, and it would also try to isolate it on the international level.

Unfortunately, in our country we do not have a coherent opposition that can become a belligerent force and—through civic actions, peaceful struggle, and political confrontations—eventually achieve power. Could someone here say that Sandinism has worn itself out in 8 years? However, there is no other (?solution) in Nicaragua other than Sandinism.

[Question indistinct]

[Nunez] We were talking about that when, as a representative of the president of the Republic, I pointed out that the Esquipulas agreement called for very fast action and here we were bogged down discussing a rule. According to what we have discussed with the five presidents, and respecting the constitutions of each country, we feel that Paragraph A of the Esquipulas agreement calls for revising the entire electoral system in order to give more participation possibilities to the various political and popular forces of our country.

Thus, in Nicaragua we have only held the general elections for the executive and legislative branches, but we still have pending the municipal elections and the councils elections, based on the Atlantic coast autonomy law and the Central American parliament. This entails reforms to the electoral law and the political parties law, the creation of a municipalities law, and so forth. We have been discussing the rules for five sessions now, and we have still not gone into anything substantial.

I feel that one of the most important points we must discuss immediately is the various forms of political and popular participation in our country in order to give the opposition greater opportunities of not only increasing its social base, but also of becoming the political alternative with a more defined program, which has not been done in these (?discussions).

[Reporter] I would like to ask you a question regarding yesterday's demonstrations by the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Coordinating Board. There was a slogan that read: Long Live the Resistance and the Counterrevolution. Among the people taking part in the demonstration were Julio Ramon Garcia Vilchez, Miriam Arguello, and several other political leaders. One of my questions is: Have they presented the counterrevolutionary political position to the internal national dialogue commission? My second question is: Mr Agustin Jarquin has stated that division in the party has been encouraged by the FSLN because of the political asylum of one of the members of the youths of the Social Christian group, who was a member of state security. I would like to hear your opinion about these two issues.

[Nunez] First, regarding the alleged member of state security, I am not empowered to make any statements, because I am not the chief of the Interior Ministry. We must wait for the corresponding clarification by the Interior Ministry. As for the second question concerning Dr Julio Ramon Garcia Vilchez' participation in the national dialogue, he has not presented any statement seeking to promote the counterrevolution. However, we are aware that at the various demonstrations—not only at the Coordinating Board demonstrations, but also at the labor unions demonstrations—there were slogans that even said: Long Live Somoza.

We also know that in those demonstrations there were people who provoked others and crude elements such as the one who fired at the mothers demonstration. It has been said here: We must occupy the streets. The political and the organizational power of the social bases of the revolution and the social bases of our country's right wing are being demonstrated here. I believe they have not noticed that by adopting the symbol of the counterrevolution—which is called the Nicaraguan Resistance, which is a fact—they are ironically showing the dimension of their force in Nicaragua when they say they will take over the streets. There is a fact that shames me as a Nicaraguan: the right-wing demonstrations are headed, directed, and organized by U.S. Embassy officials, or U.S. citizens, through which we can see the level of influence, decisionmaking, and logistics they provide to the right-wing groups. I said this makes me feel ashamed because it is not the same for these people to participate in a demonstration as observers rather than as leaders. This is truly deplorable.

[Reporter] Commander, we have seen that there is no agreement between the national reality we are experiencing, the effort to bring peace, and the implementation of the Esquipulas agreements because of the division among the various parties; we also feel they are the obstacle because they are truly forgetting about the people's interest for peace in order to pursue their personal interest. This is actually what has been shown in the statements by the leaders of the various parties. What can you tell us about this?

[Nunez] Comrade, this is a natural matter that occurs not only in all revolutionary processes but in some political systems as well. In times of crisis the social forces group around the organizations that represent their most important interests. However, in times of crisis those political organizations that are not firmly united by principles and by clearly defined programs will experience division and fragmentation; this is natural situation, and it may also be an aspect that draws the people's attention. You should remember that in 1974, and at the beginning of 1975, as the crisis in the

dictatorship was worsening—but also at a time when the various organizations were not capable of finding the adequate path to direct the revolutionary people—the Social Christian Party crisis occurred here, and today it is one of the [words indistinct] there was also the crisis of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party and of the Conservative Party, which was also divided into three factions. Moreover, the FSLN was also divided, but the FSLN had an advantage: The common point of struggle was Sandinism, and the program remains the same. They were able to divide the work: Some of them concentrated on the work with the masses, others on the military work, others on some social classes; and they had the wisdom to unite at the right moment to overthrow the dictatorship—wisdom that the other parties did not have.

It is a universal law of history, and of the struggle processes, that in times of crisis the organizations that are weak in the political, ideological, and organizational aspects become divided. We should never be frightened by that. Something else?

[Reporter] Comrade President of the dialogue, you have stated that the Nicaraguan opposition is very weak and fragmented because of various circumstances. An AFP news dispatch today stated that the Nicaraguan Government has established certain contacts with the U.S. Government that might lead to establishing bilateral conversations. Might it be possible to transfer the impasse existing in the national dialogue to bilateral talks between the United States and Nicaragua?

[Nunez] The national talks with the political parties, if they are wise and understand perfectly the contents of the talks, has absolutely nothing to do with any eventual conversation with the U.S. Administration. The U.S. Administration has pointed out that Nicaragua, a country of 130,000 square km and approximately 3 million inhabitants, is a threat to its vital strategic interests, to its security as a nation. At any rate, that is exactly what would be discussed with the United States, as well as what conditions are necessary to make gigantic Nicaragua no longer a threat to the vital interests of the United States. We have never said we are going to discuss our country's domestic situation with the United States. That would be in fact to accept something that is forbidden by the Constitution: foreign intervention in our own national political life.

[Reporter] Commander, we understand that the Nicaraguan Communist Party and rightist parties have submitted a proposal to change the system of voting by consensus in the national dialogue. What is the opinion of the presidency of this dialogue in view of those parties' position?

[Nunez] Sometimes I would like to be more eloquent.

Opposition Politicians on Political Dialogue

PA102020 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Passages within quotation marks recorded]

[Text] A political dialogue should only be held with the legally established political parties. Leaders of opposition political parties have said they would never favor the government's holding a political dialogue with the contra leaders because that would undermine the constitutionality of the political parties in the country. Mauricio Diaz, of the Popular Social Christian Party, referred to the establishment of a cease-fire and the simultaneity process [of the Esquipulas II accords]:

[Diaz] "Well, I think the government also has the right to say how it interprets its commitments. I think the government has the duty to thoroughly promote the fulfillment of Esquipulas II. This means that it must promote the most sensitive issues which have yet to be completed, such as the lifting of the national state of emergency and the establishment of the amnesty. Those two topics are still pending. There has been progress in many aspects but other aspects have yet to be fulfilled. I think the government has the right to demand the principle of simultaneity be applied because all of the signatories of Esquipulas II in Guatemala agreed to that. The agreement obliges all the signatories equally. The government decision to send the bill on suspending the national emergency law and the amnesty bill to the international commission means that the decisionmaking has been transferred from the national level to the international level. The international commission now has the responsibility for verifying the other countries' fulfillment of their commitments. I think this was a correct decision. One does not need to legalistically analyze this situation to understand that Esquipulas II establishes that. I think the international commission, which has also issued an opinion on this matter, now has the responsibility for achieving simultaneity in Central America. This means the commission must verify that those commitments are being fulfilled in Guatemala, El Salvador, Honduras, and Nicaragua."

Diaz also said that the rebels must accept the amnesty law if they want to join the civic forces that exist in Nicaragua.

[Diaz] "I think the political dialogue belongs within the purview of the political parties. I think the political dialogue should be maintained, developed, promoted, and strengthed with the political parties which have been active in Nicaragua since Somoza's fall. I think the concerted establishment of a cease-fire is another aspect clearly stipulated in Esquipulas II. There should be no confusion. Esquipulas II talks of a concerted establishment of a cease-fire between the belligerent parties and it calls on the rebels to accept amnesty on the basis of the amnesty laws in force in each of the countries so they can

join the political dialogue with the political parties existing in each of the Central American countries. Therefore, there should be no confusion in this regard.

"On many occasions it has been said that the accords are not being fulfilled because a political dialogue is not being held with the contra leaders. I think this is a prejudiced and too liberal an opinion of Esquipulas. Esquipulas talks of the concerted establishment of a cease-fire. I think this means that the two sides will reach an agreement to stop shooting at each other and it also means that the main contra leaders must understand that their opportunity for political struggle is in Nicaragua in the legally established political organizations in the country."

Gerardo Alfaro, a leader of the Democratic Conservative Party, said that his party will never favor the government holding a dialogue with the contras because that would be a mistake.

[Alfaro] "The Conservative Party has never agreed that the government should hold a dialogue with the counterrevolutionaries. This position is based on the party's conservative ideas. We feel that if the FSLN holds a dialogue with the counterrevolutionaries it would be a historic mistake for the FSLN and for Nicaragua. I agree that Nicaragua should comply with the agreements, but the other governments should also fulfill them. It is known that one of the counterrevolution's objectives is to eliminate the legislative branch; one can see that this is one of their objectives. That would be a mistake. The parties that have endorsed the election process in Nicaragua are not going to allow such a thing."

Luis Sanchez of the Nicaraguan Socialist Party said that a general cease-fire involves a procedure that is set up with the intention of reaching agreements and not just a political process.

[Sanchez] "We think that many of the questions the political parties had regarding the Nicaraguan fulfillment of the Esquipulas II commitments were answered by the decisions the government announced last week. We think that although the Esquipulas II accords do not speak of government dialogue with the insurgent forces—in the case of Nicaragua, with the counterrevolution—the concept of a concerted cease-fire necessarily entails some mechanisms or process of negotiation to establish agreements that will precisely permit a cease-fire between the belligerent parties. Now, then, in our view this does not in any way mean a political dialogue. We were concerned that a dialogue with the counterrevolution might mean removing from the political arena the internal opposition parties which have been involved in a great civic and patriotic effort to create new institutions and democracy in our country.

"Although it is true that this democracy suffers from defects, limitations, and insufficiencies, it is the democracy we have been building all these years. Now that it has been clearly established that it is one thing to seek a concerted cease-fire so as to open the way to pacification and quite another thing to search for political agreements between the government and the political parties and civic forces, I feel that the prospects for the internal national dialogue have considerably improved."

Socialist leader Luis Sanchez also said that just as it is demanded that Nicaragua comply with Esquipulas, the government also has the right to demand that the other countries fulfill the Guatemala agreements.

[Sanchez] "All the signatories are equally obliged to fulfill the commitments in their countries simultaneously. In international law and fundamental politics, one cannot in any way expect an agreement to satisfy two or more parties when only one of them is obliged to fulfill its specific terms. Therefore, if the simultaneity principle was established it was precisely because that principle must be the basis for the real, effective and total fulfillment of the Esquipulas agreements. Just as Nicaragua is being pressured to comply with the commitments, Nicaragua is also obliged to pressure the other governments to fulfill the agreeements. This is the case regarding Honduras. Without being a Sandinist or an opposition member, a simple observer realizes that while Nicaragua establishes conditions for a pacification, Honduran territory is being used as a base or supply depot for insurgent forces. Therefore, it is essential that the commitments be complied with simultaneously so as to benefit Honduras, Nicaragua, and all the other Central American countries."

CDN 'As Usual' Attacks Government, FSLN

PA110430 Managua Radio Sandino in Spanish 1200 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Text] The top leaders of the Ramiro Sacasa Guerrero Democratic Coordinating Board [CDN] met yesterday to attack, as usual, the government and the FSLN. CDN Vice President Ramiro Gurdian praised the pardon given to 981 prisoners but insisted that the government has not complied with amnesty, cease-fire, freedom of expression, and reconciliation agreements. Dr Miriam Arguello of the Nicaraguan Conservative Party and Duilio Baltodano, third vice president of the CDN, also spoke in a similar fashion.

The right-wing, pro-U.S. politicians and businessmen, organized under the CDN, marched accompanied by several U.S. Republican congressmen and U.S. Embassy officials. The Republican congressmen spoke at this demonstration, which did not even fill two blocks with right-wing supporters, and they reaffirmed the aggressive and lethal policy of the Reagan administration against Nicaragua. The watchwords given by these interventionist Yankees at an internal affair of our country were applauded and repeated by the right-wing politicians and businessmen, who are allies of the U.S. Government.

Panama

Arias Calderon on District Attorney Summons

PA101743 Panama City Radio Exitosa in Spanish 1242 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Report by Rolando Aurelio Maynard on statements by Christian Democratic Party President (PDC) Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon upon leaving Attorney General's Office in Panama City; date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Maynard] Complying with a summons from the Second Superior District Attorney's Office, PDC Party President Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon appeared before this branch of the Attorney General's Office. We will hear statements he gave to the national and international press upon his departure:

[Arias Calderon] The District Attorney seemed concerned over two things: first, the PDC proposal to resolve the serious crisis which our country is going through, and second, my news conferences in Bonn, Paris, and Madrid and my talks with European politicians. These two things worried him. From the questions he asked me, I believe he suspects there is a plan to overthrow the government.

I replied to him that in both the PDC proposals and my talks and statements in Europe, the PDC and its president, as party spokesman, have limited ourselves to expressing the Panamanian people's deep desire for change, a desire for democratization and a desire for a peaceful change toward democratization. In addition there was a public opinion poll of the Panamanian people at the beginning of August. That poll established that 75 percent of Panamanians wish General Noriega would leave his post. Of those 75 percent 58 percent believe that Mr Delvalle's presidency should also end with Gen Noriega's departure. Most believe that a government junta should be established. Therefore, the PDC only interprets the wishes of the Panamanian people, who, according to our Constitution, should be the only source of public power.

[Maynard] Dr Arias Cadleron said that 9 November is a sad day for Panama because the behavior of its leaders forced them into international quarantine.

[Arias Calderon] I believe that it is a sad day for Panama when the behavior of its leaders forces them into international quarantine. The crisis in which we are living, in the international context, and specifically in our relations with the United States, is caused by human rights violations, lack of democracy, and the repeated intervention of the military into the country's affairs, all accompanied by unchecked corruption.

[Maynard] These were statements by PDC President Dr Ricardo Arias Calderon.

Argentina

Alfonsin To Submit Constitutional Reform Plan

PY112108 Buenos Aires NOTICIAS ARGENTINAS in Spanish 2243 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Buenos Aires, 10 Nov (NA)—Informed sources today said that President Raul Alfonsin will unveil an initiative for constitutional reform in the next few days that will include the direct election of the president and the institution of a prime minister elected by Congress.

Important government sources have said the text of the constitutional reform "has already been finished and delivered to the president" by Carlos Nino, head of the Council for the Consolidation of Democracy, who was responsible for contacting different sectors to obtain their opinions on the reform.

The sources told *Noticias Argentinas* that the announcement will be made by Alfonsin "within the next 2 weeks." They said the new text will propose "the direct election of a president and a second round in case of a tie." The new text will also propose "the creation of the office of prime minister."

The sources could not say whether Alfonsin will make the anouncement over national radio and television, but they said the possibility "cannot be discarded."

The dissolution of the Electoral Board and the institution of the direct election of a president by simple majority appears to be the government's answer to the concerns of the Justicialist Party regarding the possible consequences if neither of the parties obtains a majority in the 1989 elections.

Regarding this possibility, the Justicialist Party proposed "a pact of respect for the will of the people." This pact holds that the second-largest bloc should support the largest bloc in the Electoral Board.

Juan Carlos Pugliese, president of the Chamber of Deputies, proposed an alternative by which a constituent assembly would be called for the sole purpose of amending Article 30 of the Constitution, which regulates the procedures for reform.

Pugliese's idea to modify Article 30 through a constituent assembly could be extended to establish a system of "amendments," such as the one used in the United States.

In this system Congress introduces "amendments" to the Constitution, which after the approval of Congress must be approved by the legislatures of all [as received] U.S. states.

In Pugliese's initiative, this stage, which usually demands a lot of time, will be replaced by a referendum for the people to approve or reject the proposed amendments.

Brazil

Sarney Declares 'War' on 5-Year Term Opponents

PY112340 Brasilia Domestic Service in Portuguese 2100 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Excerpt] Presidential spokesman Frota Netto today said President Sarney has declared war on Constituent Assembly members who do not vote for the 5-year presidential term in the Systematization Commission vote next weekend on the duration of his term in office.

Frota Netto said President Sarney based his decision on the principle of equality before the law because the Systematization Commission has already decided that future presidents will have 5-year presidential terms. Frota Netto added that Sarney will consider a vote against this principle an act of hostility against his person.

[Begin Frota Netto recording] More than an act of hostility against him, President Sarney will consider the vote against the 5-year term an act of hostility against his government. [end recording]

According to Frota Netto, the breaking of relations will have its consequences.

[Begin Frota Netto recording] The act of breaking off relations will have consequences. President Sarney considers this initiative an act of hostility against his government. He considers it a declaration of war. [end recording] [passage omitted]

Governors Support 4-Year Presidential Term

PY111350 Sao Paulo FOLHA DE SAO PAULO in Portuguese 10 Nov 87 pA-5

[by Clovis Rossi]

[Text] Governors Orestes Quercia (Sao Paulo State), Wellington Moreira Franco (Rio de Janeiro State), Pedro Simon (Rio Grande do Sul State), Waldir Pires (Bahia State), and Miguel Arraes (Pernambuco State) will agree with holding presidential elections in 1988, provided the Constituent Assembly decides to keep the presidential system of government. This was the principal decision made at a meeting of the five governors in Rio de Janeiro until the morning of 9 November.

The governors of five out of the six main Brazilian states (only Minas Gerais Governor Newton Cardoso was absent) decided to initiate negotiations with their respective state delegations to the Constituent Assembly to drop their support for a 5-year term for President Jose

Sarney, a position the five governors have been advocating publicly, and to concentrate instead on rejecting the parliamentary system, which has already been approved by the Systematization Commission.

The governors' decision is the strongest indication so far that the federal government is losing political support at a frightening pace—the governors (not just the five who met in Rio de Janeiro, but all the rest of them, with the exception of Alagoas Governor Fernando Collor de Mello) had represented the most solid base of support of the Sarney administration.

The weakening of the government was notably reflected yesterday by the president of the Republic himself, who appeared quite depressed to two interlocutors—one of them a minister of state—giving the impression that he did not care about anything.

The country's political situation and the president's psychological condition have prompted the Constituent Assembly to take action to prevent a power vacuum, assuming that the government will continue to deteriorate. The Constituent Assembly members are acting in two ways:

1. Talks are being held in the Constituent Assembly regarding the establishment of an emergency government to run the country until presidential elections can be held, if it is demonstrated that Sarney has lost the ability to govern—to use a pet phrase of Rio de Janeiro Governor Wellington Moreira Franco.

The talks are not progressing. This is merely an assessment, as the Constituent Assembly members have not adopted any critical strategy. However, these talks could become conspicuous this weekend, when the Systematization Commission votes on the presidential term length.

There are no longer any doubts that the 4-year proposal will win. Yesterday, Sao Paulo Governor Orestes Quercia, who privately and publicly advocates a 5-year presidential term, reported that at the Rio de Janeiro meeting it became apparent that "a trend prevails toward approving a 4-year term."

Rather than a trend, there are exact figures: the number of Systematization Commission members willing to vote for a 4-year presidential term yesterday reached 50, which is 3 more than the absolute majority required to approve any issue in the commission (which is made up of 93 congressmen).

In addition, even those who favor a 5-year presidential term admit that the game is practically lost despite the numbers: if there was a relative equilibrium between those who want a 4-year presidential term and those who want a 5- year term, it has now ended with the decision of our important congressmen, Senators Jorge Bornhausen, PFL; Marco Maciel, PFL, and Jose Richa, PMDB; and Deputy Delfim Netto, PDS [Social Democratic Party] to support a 4-year term.

The approval of a 4-year term by the Systematization Commission is not decisive, since it must still be voted on by the National Constituent Assembly plenum. However, for this weak government, commission approval of 4 years would be a harsh political-psychological blow.

2. Yesterday, the National Constituent Assembly president (?endorsed) a proposal to speed up its work in order to finish before the end of the year. The objective was to avoid the possibility of an irregular institutional situation if elections are held during the first few months of 1988. If the National Constituent Assembly delays in approving a new constitution there is a risk that elections will be carried out under the old regulations just as they are about to be replaced by new ones, which are not ready yet.

The possibility of calling elections by early 1988 and not waiting until November is admitted by at least one influential Planalto Palace office, which is not part of the president's close circle. This office believes that only with "much luck" will Sarney last until the end of 1988.

This is why those close to the president are firmly defending the idea of calling general elections (not just presidential elections) in 1988. Sarney himself did not discuss this, but *Folha de Sao Paulo* found out that he does not accept the possibility of governing under a parliamentary system.

Since the governors who met in Rio de Janeiro reiterated their rejection of a parliamentary system, negotiations in the Constituent Assembly turned toward a presidential government system with the calling of elections in 1988. Even Senator Jose Richa, one of the main promoters of the presidential system, agrees with this possibility because the installation of a parliamentary system simultaneously with presidential elections would represent another factor in a seemingly endless crisis.

Chile

Pinochet Comments on Presidential Plebiscite

PY070234 Santiago Radio Chilena Network in Spanish 2200 GMT 6 Nov 87

[Report by Eliana Henriquez from Vina del Mar]

[Text] President Augusto Pinochet today asserted that the necessary steps are being taken to overwhelmingly defeat those who, despite the years that have gone by, have learned nothing and betray their fatherland for a pittance. The chief of state said this during a ceremony held by the Radical Democratic Party at the Sporting Club in his honor.

In his speech President Pinochet said the government is determined to march united in order to defeat the persistent action of some retrogressive individuals, and it is not going to miss the historic opportunity to take another positive step for the benefit of our people.

Referring to the presidential plebiscite, he said in a few more months a civic event of vital importance to Chile will take place.

[Begin Pinochet recording] My government has had to make decisions in the economic, political, and social fields, and we are willing to continue this task because we want to enjoy the full enforcement of the democratic institutions and thus secure the development of this nation. We are well aware that the great majority of Chilean citizens supports this cause, and we will not deceive them. Our effort will be focused on fulfilling the goals ahead of us, and you can be sure the necessary steps are being taken so that, united with our fellow countrymen, we may once again overwhelmingly defeat those who, despite the years that have gone by, have learned nothing and betray the fatherland for a pittance. [end recording]

General Pinochet said great causes require the support of every citizen. Therefore, if the people really want to support the national democracy that the government has created, they must definitely and categorically express their desire by voting yes in the plebiscite.

The chief of state went on to say that political activity must be renewed. The current situation requires a new concept of political parties, that is, that the all-encompassing proposals that seek to tackle all problems from a single point of view be replaced by realistic proposals that give solutions to each individual case.

Bishop Comments on Situation, Criticizes Junta

PY111829 Madrid EFE in Spanish 1552 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Santiago, 9 Nov (EFE)—Carlos Camus, bishop of Linares and former secretary general of the Chilean Episcopal Conference, today said the Catholic Church must make one last vigorous call "because we cannot continue living in the realm of theories while problems are coming to a head."

Msgr Camus said the church should come out and say "we are heading toward a tragedy and it has to be stopped in time. We must call upon the government once and for all to open up channels, and upon the opposition to reach an agreement and propose a very simple, clear, and feasible option."

Asked about General Pinochet's statement that he would "overwhelm" the opposition in a plebiscite, the bishop replied: "What is he going to overwhelm them with, I wonder? Will it be with votes or with machineguns?"

Commenting on Chile's situation Msgr Camus point out the urgent need for one last call to stop the political situation from being further polarized. He added that after this effort, "there will be either a civil war or a massacre."

The criticisms Msgr Camus voiced against the Chilean military regime during an interview published today by *Apsi* magazine are some of the harshest uttered recently.

The bishop said that in Chile "the sense of values has been lost and the government prefers lies to truth, cruelty to fraternity, and injustice to justice. In other words, everything good has become bad (and the other way around) and our society is living in moral chaos."

The bishop added: "In this country the sin is to report a crime, not to commit one, because violence, slander, and dishonesty have permeated our culture, and whenever someone tells the truth everybody is offended."

Msgr Camus said he views with "much pessimism the current Chilean situation, because violence is being fostered and increased to the extent that any possible peaceful solution seems very unlikely."

He stressed that government measures merely cause more annoyance and could result in a more serious tragedy than the one that has been taking place in recent years.

When passing judgment on the behavior of the Chilean church he said: "I feel we have a debt to the Chilean people. We need to make ourselves even clearer."

Asked about the criticism that General Matthei, the commander in chief of the Chilean Air Force and member of the Government Junta, has made against the church for getting involved in political matters, the bishop answered: "I do not understand the general."

The bishop added: Gen Matthei "says one thing one day and contradicts himself the next day. I do not know what right he has to talk because he contradicts himself all the time."

The bishop was also asked about the opinion of Admiral Jose Merino, Navy commander in chief and member of the Government Junta. Merino has said the bishops' criticism of an article of the Constitution is not valid because they "are not experts in constitutional matters."

Msgr Camus answered: "I believe he (Merino) is accustomed to life at sea. He does not feel good on land. He is not accustomed to working on dry land. If we were to apply his logic, military men should go back to their barracks, sailors to their ships, and pilots to their planes."

Concerning the current Chilean situation, the bishop said it is the result of the spreading of a non-Christian doctrine: the end justifies the means. Results and effectiveness are all that matter. The strategic lie is a virtue and cruelty is a tool.

Colombia

Barco Orders Security Forces on General Alert

PA101614 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Bogota—The national government has ordered security forces on general alert in order to anticipate and repel any attack in areas where rebel groups operate, where they have carried out ambushes, and where they are still active in their armed struggle against the Army and police.

President Virgilio Barco made the announcement [words indistinct] prevent the continuation of criminal attacks which have resulted in the death of young soldiers and policemen, as recently occurred in Arauca and Caqueta.

In a statement to Patriotic Union leaders, President Barco strongly condemned those attacks, and he said that specific instructions have been issued to identify rebels responsible for those crimes and to bring them to justice.

The terrorist actions carried out by those subversive groups conflict with the government's willingness to hold talks with the groups that signed and respect the La Uribe agreements and have expressed their sincere desire to give up violence and join civilian life, President Barco said.

All security forces must remain on alert, ready to anticipate and repel any attack, Barco stressed.

Barco: No Talks With CNG, Drug Traffickers

PA101653 Bogota Emisoras Caracol Network in Spanish 1215 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Bogota—President Virgilio Barco expressed hopes that the ruling Liberal Party [PL] will overcome its current internal crisis. At the same time he reiterated that the government will not hold talks with the National Guerrilla Coordinating Board [CNG] or with drug traffickers.

[Words indistinct] at the end of a ceremony commemorating Air Force Day. He referred to the internal crisis within the PL, which has worsened with the selection of the party's candidate for mayor of Bogota. Barco said: I am confident that the PL, aware that it represents the country's majorities, will unite to continue working as it always has.

He immediately referred to parliamentary work, stating that approving the bills that the government has presented to Congress will not only benefit the PL, but the nation.

Barco also emphasized what Government Minister Cesar Gaviria Trujillo's said, namely that the government will not hold talks with the so-called CNG, and he reaffirmed that talks with the FARC will continue.

President Barco rejected Senator Bernardo Guerra's proposal that the government begin talks with drug traffickers. He asked: What for? Senator Guerra's proposal was also rejected by other PL spokesmen, including Senator Ernesto Samper Pizano and Attorney General Carlos Mauro Hoyos, who said that he would never sit down to talk with drug traffickers. The politicians should, he remarked.

Gaviria Rules Out Church Mediation With FARC

PA111321 Bogota Inravision Television Cadena 1 in Spanish 1730 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Passages in quotation marks recorded]

[Text] Government Minister Cesar Gaviria Trujillo has said that the government will only negotiate with the FARC, that the president will not appoint a civil defense minister under the present circumstances, and that the government will not accept the church's mediation. Government Minister Gaviria also talked about the dialogue between Patriotic Union [UP] leaders and President Virgilio Barco and said that yesterday's meeting was beneficial, contrary to what UP President Bernardo Jaramillo had said:

[Gaviria] "I believe the dialogue was beneficial and very useful in terms of the information and explanations given by the government."

In view of the possibility that the UP will not participate in the next elections, Government Minister Gaviria said:

[Gaviria] "The government is willing to give the UP all the appropriate guarantees for carrying out political activities in the upcoming elections."

Finally, Minister Gaviria said the government will not accept the church's mediation in the talks with the rebels:

[Gaviria] "Since his electoral campaign the president has said that he would not seek mediators for the negotiations but that he would negotiate using his own officials—officials from the Presidency. Up to now he has not considered changing that policy."

Bogota Archbishop Msgr Mario Rebollo said the church would be willing to cooperate in the talks with the guerrillas. He called on the government to continue holding meetings such as yesterday's

Peru

San Martin, Huanuco State of Emergency Decreed

PA110338 Lima Television Peruana in Spanish 0100 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] The government has declared a state of emergency in several provinces of San Martin and Huanuco Departments through a decree. The following is the text:

The president of the Republic, based on Article 231 of the Peruvian Constitution, having the approval of the Council of Ministers, and assigned to report to the National Congress, decrees:

Article 1. To declare a 60-day state of emergency, to take effect when this decree is published, in the provinces of Moyobamba, Bella Vista, Huallanga, Lamas, Picota, Rioja, and San Martin in San Martin Department. The individual guarantees stipulated in clauses No 7, 9, 10, and 20 of Article 2 of the Peruvian Constitution will be suspended.

Article 2. To extend the state of emergency immediately after this decree is published for a period of 60 days in the provinces of Mariscal Caceres and (Itocache), in San Martin; and in Leoncio Prado Province and (Cholon) district of Maranon Province, in Huanuco Department. This state of emergency was declared by Decree No 034-87-IN on 12 September 1987.

Article 3. The joint command of the Armed Forces will assume control of the internal order in the provinces and districts named in the aforementioned articles.

Article 4. The police forces stationed in the provinces and districts declared in state of emergency by this decree shall put at the disposal of the military chief all their personnel and equipment in those areas and shall carry out all missions assigned to them.

Article 5. This decree shall be signed by the president of the Council of Ministers and by the defense and interior ministers.

Signed in the Lima Government Palace on 10 November 1987 by President Alan Garcia, Council of Ministers President Guillermo Larco Cox, Interior Minister Jose Barsallo Burga, and Defense Minister Enrique Lopez Albujar.

Guyana

Opposition Leader Continues Hunger Strike

FL110246 Bridgetown CANA in English 1708 GMT 9 Nov 87

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Nov 9, CANA—Co-leader of the opposition Working People's Alliance (WPA), Eusi Kwayana, on Monday took his eight-day-old hunger fast outside the public buildings here, seat of the Guyana parliament.

He has been joined on a rotation basis by another WPA member, Jai Quidai Paul Singh, a teacher and religious leader, and by leader of the right wing Democratic Labour Movement (DLM), Paul Tennassee.

Kwayana, the lone WPA member of parliament, said the hunger fast on water was being undertaken in pursuit of seven limited objectives, including getting the government to convene an emergency sitting of the National Assembly to discuss the national fuel crisis which he said has reached a critical stage. He told CANA he intends continuing his fast up to around Wednesday.

Kwayana had written leader of the house, Minister of Regional Development Jeffrey Thomas, asking that parliament be convened by today, Monday, to discuss the fuel crisis.

He has since received acknowledgement of the letter and notified that the contents have been noted. But, to date, the National Assembly has not been convened. As a result, Kwayana began his hunger fast privately at midnight on November 1.

The three protestors were seated on wicker chairs on the pavement outside the public buildings, surrounded by a handful of supporters distributing leaflets to passers-by.

Working People's Alliance Becomes 'Rodneyite'

FL050353 Bridgetown CANA in English 1610 GMT 4 Nov 87

[By Courtney Gibson]

[Text] Georgetown, Guyana, Nov 4, CANA—The Working People's Alliance [WPA] on Tuesday announced it had changed from an activist to a mass party, and now regards itself as a "Rodneyite", revolutionary democratic, and humanist party.

WPA co-leader Dr Rupert Roopnarine, speaking to reporters on the conclusions of a party conference on Sunday, also said the building of socialism in Guyana as espoused by the government was inappropriate in this period.

Explaining the party's new Rodneyite orientation, Roopnarine said the WPA was Rodneyite to the extent that members hold the example of the life of the party's late founder Dr Walter Rodney as an exemplary Guyanese revolutionary.

Rodney, who was engaged in an active campaign to bring down the then Forbes Burnham government, died in a car bomb blast on June 13, 1980. The WPA alleged he was assassinated by the ruling People's National Congress (PNC), an allegation stoutly denied by that party.

Roopnarine said while the WPA did not believe that Rodney's work should be regarded as canonical, nevertheless, it remained of extreme significance.

The WPA believes that it is important for parties in countries like Guyana to seek inspiration from our indigenous intellectual workers and indigenous thinkers, he said.

Rodney was a world-renowned Third World historian and intellectual.

Meanwhile, a statement circulated at the press conference said the WPA was preparing to launch a membership drive, in keeping with a decision taken at the members conference on Sunday.

The party said it was prepared to embrace as members all whose private beliefs allow them to take the side of the working people in class conflicts and to commit themselves to the genuine, multi-racial, and democratic power of the working people.

The WPA said candidates for membership also must be prepared to oppose the practice of discrimination on grounds of race or sex, must oppose corruption and oppression, and be willing to uphold human rights.

On the WPA's opposition to the building of socialism in Guyana, Roopnarine said that while in the WPA's view the socialist organisation of society remains the last form of social organisation it knew about, the fact of the matter is that we don't believe that conditions exist in Guyana for any such operation at this time and a great deal has to be done before the conditions could be met to build socialism in an authentic way.

He said the WPA has been insisting since 1978 that no one political party could resolve Guyana's problems. What was needed is a broad-based government of national unity which would be able to embark on a programme of economic reconstruction, he added.

We believe that all parties in this country which regard themselves as patriotic must at some stage sit down and begin serious discussions, Roopnarine said.

All right-thinking Guyanese at this time understand quite well that without a new set set of electoral arrangements and some form of democratic government, this country is going to fall off the map, Roopnarine, a lecturer at the University of Guyana, added.

Referring to internal party maters addressed at the conference, he said there was still an unfinished consultation on the question of the form of leadership the WPA should have.

He stressed, however, that no one should anticipate any radical departure from the party's original ideas about its leadership for it was virtually dogma that the leadership should remain a collective and not be concentrated in the hands of a single individual.

Also of great importance was the adoption by the conference of the party's draft programme which was released to members and to the public since 1985.

The programme was adopted after being studied in nine workshops and after several amendments in plenary session. While there were no changes in principles or in fundamental ideas, there were changes in details and in emphasis intended to make the language of the document more precise, Roopnarine said.

The conference also passed resolutions demanding an end to the present fuel shortage, town and village renewal, and improved supply of electricity.

It also hailed the report submitted recently by the integrity commission, called for the restoration of integrity in public life and appealed to organisations to raise and defend the principle of freedom of association.

Suriname

Election Nominations Close in 3 Districts

FL101753 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] At 1500 yesterday afternoon the Independent Elections Office closed nominations for the Brokopondo, Marowijne, and Sipaliwini District.

The National Democratic Party of Prime Minister Jules Wijdenbosch is the only party with candidates in all the three districts for the Record Board, District Board, as well as for the National Assembly.

The Pendawa Lima has candidates at all levels in the Marowijne District, while in the Sipaliwini District it has nominated candidates only for the National Assembly.

The Progressive Workers and Farmers Union, PALU, also has candidates at all levels in Marowijne, but in Brokopondo only for the National Assembly.

The elections office didn't have all the information about Brokopondo this morning because the telephone connection was out of order. A delegation has left for Brokopondo to get this data.

The Suriname Labor Party of Fred Derby and the Front for Democracy and Development have no candidates in the three districts.

Labor Party Leader on Political Program

FL101914 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] The Suriname Labor Party [SPA] is so far the only political organization to present the political program. This clearly indicates the SPA's deviation from traditional politics in Suriname.

This was stated yesterday by chairman Fred Derby at the press conference where he elaborated on the present political developments and the party's activities since its launching on July 1st.

Derby said that the working together of the old political parties is not based on a joint program. A merger came about by stating that the military must go home, and he also promised there will be no lies. He predicts that, shortly, the front will fall apart because the military, just as the trade union movement, is an integral part of society. Moreover, the front still doesn't have a program which indicates how it will solve the economic crisis.

The SPA leader challenged all political parties to present an elections program as soon as possible to point out how they intend to achieve their goals.

Hijacked Plane Pilot Returns to Paramaribo

FL111927 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 11 Nov 87

[Text] The pilot of the airplane which was hijacked at the end of October has been released and returned to Paramaribo yesterday after mediation by the International Red Cross.

The aircraft, however, is still in the hands of the Brunswijk gang, which, according to reports, is using it to transport supplies and members of the so-called Jungle Commando.

Pilot Daniel Rogers, an American citizen, was flying the aircraft belonging to the Missionary [name indistinct] Fellowship, a local branch of the American-based organization.

The plane was hijacked on October 30th while on its way to the interior of Suriname carrying patients, health workers, and small supplies of medicine. He was expected back in Paramaribo since Monday after he was released by his kidnappers last Saturday in Cayenne, French Guiana.

A representative of the missionary headquarters in California, who traveled to Cayenne after the hijack trauma, wanted to negotiate one more day for the release of the aircraft. This attempt, however, failed.

Suralco Partially Resumes Moengo Operations

FL101846 Paramaribo International Service in English 1730 GMT 10 Nov 87

[Text] Yesterday, activities at the Suralco [Suriname Aluminum Company] in Moengo were partially resumed after Friday night's attack on the powerhouse. Operations in the mines have not yet resumed since the safety of these workers isn't yet guaranteed, said Suralco spokesman Mr (Koselay) this morning to our newsroom.

The military authorities have promised to take care of security in the mines very soon.

Also this morning, electricity and workers supplies were partly resumed. These were put out of order because of damage to the powerhouse during the attack.